UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK		
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	X : :	
-V-	:	17-CR-548 (JMF)
JOSHUA ADAM SCHULTE,	; ;	<u>ORDER</u>
Defendant.	:	
	: X	

JESSE M. FURMAN, United States District Judge:

Attached to this Order are the following:

- the draft jury charge that was considered at the charge conference held on September 13, 2023;
- language proposed by the Defendant at the conference; and
- the final jury charge that was delivered to the jury that same day.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 13, 2023 New York, New York

ESSE M. PURMAN United States District Judge

SOUTHERN DISTRICT			
UNITED STATES OF A	MERICA,	X : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	S2 17-CR-548 (JMF)
		X	

CHARGE CONFERENCE — DRAFT JURY CHARGE

September 13, 2023

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I. GENERAL INTRODUCTORY CHARGES

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Members of the jury, you have now heard all of the evidence and the lawyers' closing arguments. It is my duty at this point to instruct you as to the law. I am going to read my instructions to you. It is not my favorite way to communicate — and not the most scintillating thing to listen to — but there is a need for precision, and it is important that I get the words just right, and so that is why I will be reading. I have given you a copy of my instructions to follow along because they cover many points. Please limit yourself to following along; that is, do not read ahead in the instructions. If you find it easier to listen and understand while you are following along with me, please do so. If you would prefer, you can just listen and not follow along. In the unlikely event that I deviate from the written instructions, it is my oral instructions that govern and that you must follow. But you may take your copy of the instructions with you into the jury room so you can consult it if you want to re-read any portion of the charge to facilitate your deliberations. For now, listen carefully and try to concentrate on the substance of what I'm saying. You should not single out any instruction as alone stating the law. Instead, you should consider my instructions as a whole when you retire to deliberate in the jury room. My instructions to you will be in three parts. First, I will give you general instructions — for example, about your role as the jury, what you can and cannot consider in your deliberations, and the burden of proof. Second, I will describe the law that you must apply to the facts as you find them to be established by the evidence.

Finally, I will give you some instructions for your deliberations.

Role of the Court and the Jury

You, the members of the jury, are the sole and exclusive judges of the facts. You must weigh

and consider the evidence without regard to sympathy, prejudice, or passion for or against any party. It

is your duty to accept my instructions as to the law and to apply them to the facts as you determine them.

If either party has stated a legal principle differently from any that I state to you in my instructions, it is

my instructions that you must follow.

The Parties

In reaching your verdict, you must remember that all parties stand equal before a jury in the courts of the United States. The fact that the Government is a party and the prosecution is brought in the name of the United States does not entitle the Government or its witnesses to any greater consideration than that accorded to any other party. By the same token, you must give it no less deference. The Government and the defendant, Joshua Schulte, stand on equal footing before you.

It would be improper for you to consider, in reaching your decision as to whether the Government sustained its burden of proof, any personal feelings you may have about the defendant's race, national origin, religious beliefs, sex, or age. All persons are entitled to the same presumption of innocence and the Government has the same burden of proof with respect to all persons.

Conduct of Counsel

The personalities and the conduct of counsel are not in any way at issue. If you formed opinions of any kind about any of the lawyers in the case, favorable or unfavorable, whether you approved or disapproved of their behavior, those opinions should not enter into your deliberations.

In addition, remember that it is the duty of a lawyer to object when the other side offers testimony or other evidence that the lawyer believes is not properly admissible. Therefore, you should draw no inference from the fact that there was an objection to any testimony or evidence. Nor should you draw any inference related to the weight or importance of any testimony or evidence from the fact that I sustained or overruled an objection. Simply because I have permitted certain testimony or evidence to be introduced does not mean that I have decided on its importance or significance. That is for you to decide.

Presumption of Innocence and Burden of Proof

The defendant has pleaded not guilty to the charges against him. As a result of that plea of not guilty, the burden is on the Government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden never shifts to a defendant for the simple reason that the law never imposes upon a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of testifying, or calling any witness, or locating or producing any evidence.

Furthermore, the law presumes the defendant to be innocent of the charges against him. The presumption of innocence was in his favor when the trial began, continued in his favor throughout the entire trial, remains with him even as I speak to you now, and persists in his favor as to each charged crime during the course of your deliberations in the jury room, unless and until you determine that the Government proves beyond a reasonable doubt that he committed the charged crime.

Proof Beyond a Reasonable Doubt

The question that naturally arises is, "What is a reasonable doubt?" A reasonable doubt is a doubt based on your reason, your judgment, your experience, and your common sense. It is a doubt that a reasonable person has after carefully weighing all the evidence. It is a doubt founded in reason and

arising out of the evidence in the case — or the lack of evidence. A reasonable doubt is not caprice or whim. It is not speculation or suspicion.

Proof beyond a *reasonable* doubt does not mean proof beyond all *possible* doubt. It is practically impossible for a person to be absolutely and completely convinced of any disputed fact that, by its very nature, cannot be proved with mathematical certainty. The Government's burden is to establish guilt beyond a *reasonable* doubt, not all *possible* doubt.

If, after a fair and impartial consideration of all the evidence, you can candidly and honestly say that you are not satisfied with the guilt of the defendant, that you do not have an abiding belief of the defendant's guilt — in other words, if you have such a doubt as would reasonably cause a prudent person to hesitate in acting in matters of importance in his or her own affairs — then you have a reasonable doubt, and in that circumstance it is your duty to acquit.

On the other hand, if, after a fair and impartial consideration of all the evidence, you can candidly and honestly say that you do have an abiding belief of the defendant's guilt, such a belief as a prudent person would be willing to act upon in important matters in the personal affairs of his or her own life, then you have no reasonable doubt, and in that circumstance it is your duty to convict.

Direct and Circumstantial Evidence

There are two types of evidence that you may properly use in deciding whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty of the crimes with which he is charged.

One type of evidence is called direct evidence. Direct evidence of a fact in issue is presented when a witness testifies to that fact based on what he or she personally saw, heard, or otherwise observed through the five senses. The second type of evidence is circumstantial evidence.

Circumstantial evidence is evidence that tends to prove a disputed fact indirectly by proof of other facts.

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There is a simple example of circumstantial evidence that is often used in this courthouse. Assume that when you came into the courthouse this morning, the sun was shining and it was a nice day outside. Also assume that the courtroom shades were drawn and you could not look outside. Assume further that as you were sitting here, someone walked in with an umbrella that was dripping wet, and then, a few moments later, somebody else walked in with a raincoat that was also dripping wet. Now, because you could not look outside the courtroom and you could not see whether it was raining, you would have no direct evidence of that fact. But, on the combination of facts that I have asked you to assume, it would be reasonable and logical for you to conclude that it was raining. That is all there is to circumstantial evidence. You infer on the basis of your reason, experience, and common sense from one established fact the existence or the nonexistence of some other fact. The matter of drawing inferences from facts in evidence is not a matter of guesswork or speculation. An inference is a logical, factual conclusion that you might reasonably draw from other facts that have been proved. It is for you, and you alone, to decide what inferences you will draw. Many material facts, such as a person's state of mind, are not easily proved by direct evidence. Usually such facts are established by circumstantial evidence and the reasonable inferences you draw. Circumstantial evidence may be given as much weight as direct evidence. The law makes no distinction between direct and circumstantial evidence. The law simply requires that before convicting a defendant, you must be satisfied of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, based on all of the evidence in the case. What Is and What Is Not Evidence What, then, is the evidence in the case?

The evidence in this case is (1) the sworn testimony of the witnesses, (2) the exhibits received into evidence, and (3) any stipulations made by the parties. Anything else is not evidence.

For example, the questions posed to a witness are not evidence: It is the witnesses' answers that are evidence, not the questions. In addition, exhibits marked for identification but not admitted by me are not evidence. Nor are materials brought forth only to refresh a witness's recollection. Moreover, testimony that has been stricken or excluded by me is not evidence and may not be considered by you in rendering your verdict.

Arguments by the advocates are also not evidence. What you heard during the opening statements and summations is merely intended to help you understand the evidence and reach your verdict. If your recollection of the facts differs from the lawyers' statements, you should rely on your recollection. If a lawyer made a statement during his or her opening or summation and you find that there is no evidence to support the statement, you should disregard the statement.

Last, any statements that I may have made during the trial or during these instructions do not constitute evidence. At times, I may have admonished a witness or directed a witness to be responsive to questions or to keep his or her voice up. At times, I may have asked a question myself. Any questions that I asked, or instructions that I gave, were intended only to clarify the presentation of evidence and to bring out something that I thought might be unclear. You should draw no inference or conclusion of any kind, favorable or unfavorable, with respect to any witness or any party in the case, by reason of any comment, question, or instruction of mine. The rulings I have made during the trial and these instructions are no indication of my views of what your decision should be. Nor should you infer that I have any views as to the credibility of any witness, as to the weight of the evidence, or as to how you should decide any issue that is before you. That is entirely your role.

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Finally, I instruct you that all of the evidence presented to you in this case was lawfully obtained. Whether you approve or disapprove of how any evidence was obtained should not enter into your deliberations. Credibility of Witnesses How do you evaluate the credibility or believability of the witnesses? The answer is that you use your common sense. There is no magic formula by which you can evaluate testimony. You may use the same tests here that you use in your everyday life when evaluating statements made by others to you. You may ask yourselves: Did the witness impress you as open, honest, and candid? How responsive was the witness to the questions asked on direct examination and on cross-examination? If you find that a witness intentionally told a falsehood, that is always a matter of importance you should weigh carefully. On the other hand, a witness may be inaccurate, contradictory, or even untruthful in some respects and entirely believable and truthful in other respects. It is for you to determine whether such inconsistencies are significant or inconsequential, and whether to accept or reject all of the testimony of any witness, or to accept or reject only portions. You are not required to accept testimony even though the testimony is uncontradicted and the witness's testimony is not challenged. You may reject it because of the witness's bearing or demeanor, or because of the inherent improbability of the testimony, or for other reasons sufficient for you to conclude that the testimony is not worthy of belief. In evaluating the credibility of the witnesses, you should take into account any evidence that a witness may benefit in some way from the outcome of the case. Such an interest in the outcome creates a motive to testify falsely and may sway a witness to testify in a way that advances his or her own

interests. Therefore, if you find that any witness whose testimony you are considering may have an

interest in the outcome of this trial, you should bear that factor in mind when evaluating the credibility of his or her testimony and decide whether to accept it with great care.

Keep in mind, though, that it does not automatically follow that testimony given by an interested witness is to be disbelieved. There are many people who, no matter what their interest in the outcome of the case may be, would not testify falsely. It is for you to decide, based on your own perceptions and common sense, to what extent, if at all, the witness's interest has affected his or her testimony.

Expert Witnesses

You have heard testimony from two expert witnesses. As I previously explained, an expert witness is someone who, by education or experience, has acquired learning or experience in a specialized area of knowledge. Such a witness is permitted to express his opinions on matters about which he has specialized knowledge and training. The parties may present expert testimony to you on the theory that someone who is experienced in the field can assist you in understanding the evidence or in reaching an independent decision on the facts.

Your role in judging credibility applies to the expert as well as other witnesses. In weighing an expert's opinion, you may consider the expert's qualifications, education, and reasons for testifying, as well as all of the other considerations that ordinarily apply, including all the other evidence in the case. If you find the opinion of an expert is based on sufficient data, education, and experience, and the other evidence does not give you reason to doubt his conclusions, you would be justified in placing reliance on his testimony. However, you should not accept witness testimony simply because the witness is an expert. The determination of the facts in this case rests solely with you.

Law Enforcement and Government Witnesses

You have heard testimony from law enforcement or other government witnesses. The fact that a witness may be employed as a law enforcement official or government employee does not mean that his or her testimony is necessarily deserving of more or less consideration or greater or lesser weight than that of an ordinary witness. It is your decision, after reviewing all the evidence, whether to accept the testimony of any law enforcement witness or government witnesses, as it is with every other type of witness, and to give to that testimony the weight you find it deserves.

9 Preparation of Witnesses

You have heard some evidence during the trial that witnesses discussed the facts of the case and their testimony with the lawyers before the witnesses appeared in court. Although you may consider such evidence when you are evaluating a witness's credibility, it is common for a witness to meet with lawyers before testifying so that the witness can be aware of the subjects he or she will be questioned about, focus on the subjects, and have the opportunity to review relevant exhibits before being questioned about them. In fact, it would be unusual for a lawyer to call a witness without such consultation. As always, the weight you give to the fact or the nature of these issues and what inferences you draw from them are matters completely within your discretion.

Uncalled Witnesses

There are people whose names you have heard during the course of the trial but who did not appear here to testify. I instruct you that each party had an equal opportunity, or lack of opportunity, to call any of these witnesses. Therefore, you should not draw any inferences or reach any conclusions as

to what they would have testified to had they been called. Their absence should not affect your judgment in any way.

You should, however, remember my instruction that the law does not impose on a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of calling any witness or producing any evidence. The burden of proof remains at all times with the Government.

Number of Witnesses and Uncontradicted Testimony

I remind you that the defendant is not required to call any witnesses or offer any evidence, since he is presumed to be innocent. On the other hand, the Government is not required to prove each element of the offense by any particular number of witnesses. The testimony of a single witness may be enough to convince you beyond a reasonable doubt of the existence of the elements of the charged offenses — if you believe that the witness has truthfully and accurately related what he or she has told you. The testimony of a single witness may also be enough to convince you that reasonable doubt exists, in which case you must find the defendant not guilty.

Stipulations

A stipulation was entered into relating to various facts in this case. A stipulation is an agreement between parties as to what certain facts were or what the testimony would be if certain people testified before you. The stipulations are the same for your purposes as the presentation of live testimony. You should consider the weight to be given such evidence just as you would any other evidence.

Charts and Summaries

The Government presented exhibits in the form of charts and summaries. As I mentioned to you earlier, I admitted these charts and summaries in place of, or in addition to, the underlying testimony or documents that they represent in order to save time and avoid unnecessary inconvenience. They are no better than the testimony or the documents upon which they are based. Therefore, you are to give no greater consideration to these charts or summaries than you would give to the evidence upon which they are based. It is for you to decide whether they correctly present the information contained in the testimony and in the exhibits on which they were based.

Limited Purpose Évidence

If certain testimony or evidence was received for a limited purpose, you must follow the limiting instructions I have given.

Particular Investigative Techniques

There is no legal requirement that the Government prove its case through any particular means. While you are to carefully consider the evidence and/or lack of evidence adduced by the Government, you are not to speculate as to why the Government used the techniques it did or why it did not use other techniques. Your concern is to determine whether or not, on the evidence or lack of evidence, the Government has met its burden of proving each element of each charge beyond a reasonable doubt.

Persons Not on Trial

Some of the people who may have been involved in the events leading to this trial are not on trial. This does not matter. There is no requirement that all members of a conspiracy be charged and

prosecuted, or tried together, in the same proceeding. You may not draw any inference, favorable or

2 unfavorable, toward the Government or the defendant from the fact that any person was not named as a

defendant in this case, and you may not speculate as to the reasons why other people are not on trial

before you now. Those matters are wholly outside your concern and have no bearing on your function

as jurors in deciding the case before you.

All Available Evidence Need Not Be Introduced

The law does not require any party to call as witnesses all persons who may have been present at any time or place involved in the case, or who may appear to have some knowledge of the matter in issue at this trial. Nor does the law require any party to produce as exhibits all relevant papers and things available to either party during the course of the trial.

The Defendant's Testimony

The defendant did not testify. Under our Constitution, a defendant is presumed innocent and has no obligation to testify or to present any other evidence because, as I have told you many times, it is the Government's burden to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. That burden remains on the Government throughout the entire trial and never shifts to the defendant. A defendant is never required to prove that he is innocent.

You may not attach any significance to the fact that the defendant did not testify. No positive or negative inference, for or against, the defendant may be drawn by you because the defendant did not take the witness stand. You may not speculate as to why he did not testify. You may not consider this in any way in your deliberations in the jury room.

1 II. SUBSTANTIVE CHARGES 2 That concludes my introductory instructions. Let me now turn to the charges. 3 The Indictment 4 The defendant is formally charged in an Indictment. As I instructed you at the outset of this 5 case, the Indictment is simply a charge or accusation. It is not evidence, and it does not prove or even 6 indicate guilt. It does not create any presumption or permit any inference that the defendant is guilty. 7 As I have told you many times, the defendant is presumed innocent and has entered a plea of not guilty. 8 It is the Government's burden to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. 9 The Indictment (a copy of which you will have in the jury room during your deliberations) contains three charges, or "counts," against the defendant. Each count accuses the defendant of 10 11 committing a different crime. You must, as a matter of law, consider each count, and you must return a 12 separate verdict for each count in which the defendant is charged. Your verdict on one count should not 13 control your decision as to the other count. Count One charges that, between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant 14 knowingly received material that contained child pornography by downloading from the Internet 15 16 electronic files depicting child pornography. Count Two charges that, between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant 17 18 knowingly possessed or accessed with intent to view material that contained child pornography, 19 Count Three charges that, in or about November 2016, the defendant knowingly transported 20 child pornography in interstate commerce. 21 I will explain each count to you in turn.

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Count One: Elements As noted, Count One charges the defendant with the receipt of child pornography. In order to convict the defendant of Count One, the Government must prove the following four elements beyond a reasonable doubt: First, that on or about the dates set forth in the Indictment, the defendant knowingly received a visual depiction, as I will explain that term to you; Second, that the visual depiction contained child pornography, as I will explain that term to you; Third, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and knew that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and Fourth, that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-26. Count One, Element One: Receiving a Visual Depiction The first element of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is that the defendant knowingly received a visual depiction. A "visual depiction" includes any photograph, film, video, or picture, including data stored on computer disk or by electronic means that is capable of conversion into a visual image. To receive a visual depiction means to take possession of it. This includes the knowing acceptance of a depiction previously requested. Receiving includes the downloading of a photograph or video by means of the Internet. The Government must prove that defendant received the depiction knowingly. An act is done

knowingly when it is done voluntarily and intentionally and not because of accident, mistake or some

- 1 other innocent reason. Direct proof of knowledge is almost never available. It would be a rare case
- 2 when it could be shown that a person wrote or stated that, as of a given time in the past, he committed an
- 3 act with knowledge. Such proof is not required. The ultimate fact of knowledge, though subjective,
- 4 may be established by circumstantial evidence, based upon a person's outward manifestations, his
- 5 words, his conduct, his acts and all the surrounding circumstances disclosed by the evidence and the
- 6 rational or logical inferences that may be drawn from them.

7 Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-28.

Count One, Element Two: Child Pornography

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The second element of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is that the visual depiction the defendant received is child pornography. The defendant does not dispute that material in this case was in fact child pornography, but I will nevertheless define the term, in part because you also saw and heard evidence regarding what is known as child erotica. I remind you that the receipt, possession, and transportation of child erotica is not illegal.

Child pornography means any visual depiction the production of which involved the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct, and that portrays that minor engaged in that conduct.

"Sexually explicit conduct" means actual or simulated sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex; bestiality; masturbation; sadistic or masochistic abuse; or lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area of any person.

Not every exposure of the genitals or pubic area constitutes a lascivious exhibition. The term "lascivious exhibition" means a depiction that displays or brings to view to attract notice to the genitals or pubic area of children in order to excite lustfulness or sexual stimulation in the viewer.

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The visual depiction must be of a real person under the age of eighteen engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The Government does not have to prove the identity of the minor or the exact age of the minor. You may consider all of the evidence, including your viewing of the depiction, in determining whether the depiction portrayed an actual person under the age of eighteen engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-36, 62-37. Count One, Element Three: Knowledge The third element that of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable doubt is that the defendant knew that the material he received was child pornography. As I stated before, an act is done knowingly when it is done voluntarily and intentionally and not because of accident, mistake or some other innocent reason. For this element, the term "knowingly" refers to an awareness of the sexually explicit nature of the material and to the knowledge that the visual depictions were in fact of actual minors engaged in that sexually explicit conduct. The Government must show that the defendant had knowledge of the general nature of the contents of the material. The defendant need not have had specific knowledge as to the identity or actual age of the underage person depicted in the material. The defendant must have had knowledge or an awareness that the material contained a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Such knowledge may be shown by direct or circumstantial evidence, or both. Eyewitness testimony of the defendant's viewing of the material is not necessary to prove his awareness of its contents; the circumstances may warrant an inference that he was aware of what the material depicts. Furthermore, the defendant's belief as to the legality or illegality of the material is irrelevant.

1 Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-39. 2 3 Count One, Element Four: Interstate Commerce 4 The fourth element of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable doubt 5 is that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by 6 any means, including by computer. 7 This means that the Government must prove that the child pornography crossed between one state and another or between the United States and a foreign country. Transmission of photographs or 8 9 video by means of the Internet constitutes transportation in interstate commerce. But you must find 10 beyond a reasonable doubt that the specific depiction in question was actually transmitted by means of 11 the Internet. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-33. 12 13 14 Count Two: Elements As noted, Count Two charges the defendant with possession of, or access with intent to view, 15 child pornography. In order to convict the defendant of Count Two, the Government must prove the 16 17 following four elements beyond a reasonable doubt: 18 First, that on or about the dates set forth in the Indictment, the defendant knowingly either 19 possessed or accessed with intent to view a visual depiction; 20 Second, that the visual depiction contained child pornography; Third, that the defendant knew that the material depicted one or more actual minors and knew 21

that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct; and

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1	Fourth, that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign
2	commerce by any means, including by computer.
3	Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-26.
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5	Count Two, Element One: Knowingly Possessed or Knowingly Accessed with Intent to View
6	The first element of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable doubt is
7	that the defendant knowingly possessed or knowingly accessed with intent to view a visual depiction.
8	To "possess" something means to have it within a person's control. This does not necessarily
9	mean that the person must hold it physically, that is have actual possession of it. As long as the visual
10	depiction is within the defendant's control, he possesses it. If you find that the defendant either had
11	actual possession of the depiction or that he had the power and intention to exercise control over it, even
12	though it was not in his physical possession, you may find that the Government has proved possession.
13	The law also recognizes that possession may be sole or joint. If one person alone possesses it,
14	that is sole possession. However, it is possible that more than one person may have the power and
15	intention to exercise control over the visual depiction. This is called joint possession. If you find that
16	the defendant had such power and intention, then he possessed the depiction even if he possessed it
17	jointly with another person.
18	To "access" something means to use, enter, or open it.
19	"Intent to view" something means to act knowingly and with the specific intent to view it. Thus,
20	a person accesses something with the intent to view child pornography if he accesses it with the specific
21	purpose of viewing child pornography as I have defined that term.
22	Direct proof of intent is almost never available. Such direct proof is not required. Instead, the
23	ultimate facts of knowledge and intent, though subjective, may be established by circumstantial

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evidence, based upon a person's words, his conduct, his acts, and all the surrounding circumstances disclosed by the evidence and the rational or logical inferences that may be drawn from them. The Indictment charges that the defendant knowingly possessed or knowingly accessed with intent to view child pornography. The Government need not prove both that the defendant knowingly possessed the materials and that he knowingly accessed them with the intent to view them. It is sufficient to satisfy this element if you find that the Government has proved beyond a reasonable doubt either that the defendant knowingly possessed child pornography or that the defendant knowingly accessed child pornography with the intent to view it, as long as your finding is unanimous. The Government must prove that defendant possessed or accessed the child pornography knowingly. I have previously instructed you on what it means for the defendant to have acted knowingly, and you should follow those instructions here as well. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-31; www.merriam-webster.com ("Access"); *United States v. Tagg*, 886 F.3d 579, 587-89 (6th Cir. 2018); and the "intent" instruction in *United States v. Chastain*, 22-CR-305 (JMF). Count Two, Elements Two, Three, and Four The second, third, and fourth elements that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt before you can convict him on Count Two are that the images and videos contained child pornography, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and that the images and videos had been shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer. I have previously instructed you about the requirements of these elements in connection with Count One, and you should follow those instructions with respect to Count Two as well.

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Count Three: Elements As noted, Count Three charges the defendant with transporting child pornography in interstate commerce. In order to convict the defendant of Count Three, the Government must prove the following three elements beyond a reasonable doubt: First, that on or about the date set forth in the Indictment, the defendant transported or shipped in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer, a visual depiction; Second, that the visual depiction was child pornography; and Third, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that the actual minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-26. Count Three, Element One: Knowing Interstate Transportation The first element that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is that the defendant knowingly transported or shipped the visual depiction described in the Indictment in interstate or foreign commerce. I have previously instructed you on what a "visual depiction" is, on what it means for the defendant to act "knowingly," and on what it means for material to be transported in interstate commerce, and you should follow those instructions here as well. It is not necessary for the Government to show that the defendant personally transported or shipped the visual depiction. It is sufficient if the Government proves that the defendant knowingly caused the interstate shipment to take place. Adapted from the parties' requests; Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, Instr. 62-27.

Count Three, Elements Two and Three

The second and third elements of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt are that the visual depiction contained child pornography and that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that the actual minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct. I have previously instructed you about the requirements of these elements in connection with Count One, and you should follow those instructions with respect to Count Three as well.

Venue in the Southern District of New York

In addition to all of the elements I have described for you, in order to convict the defendant of each count in the Indictment, you must also decide whether any act in furtherance of the count occurred within the Southern District of New York. The Southern District of New York includes Manhattan.

The Government does not have to prove that the complete crime was committed within the Southern District of New York or that the defendant was ever in the Southern District of New York. It is sufficient to satisfy this element if any act in furtherance of the crime occurred within this District.

Venue must be examined separately for each count in the Indictment. Venue on one count does not establish venue on another count, although, if applicable, you may rely on the same evidence to establish venue on multiple counts.

I should note that on this issue — and this issue alone — the Government need not prove venue beyond a reasonable doubt, but only by a mere preponderance of the evidence. Thus, the Government has satisfied its venue obligations as to a count if you conclude that it is more likely than not that any act in furtherance of the crime charged in that count occurred in the Southern District of New York and that

- 1 it was reasonably foreseeable to the defendant that the act would take place in the Southern District of
- 2 New York. By contrast, if you find that the Government failed to prove venue by a preponderance of
- 3 the evidence with regard to any count, then you must acquit the defendant of that count.
- 4 Adapted from the parties' requests; *United States v. Raji*, 19-CR-870 (JMF) (S.D.N.Y. 2022).

6 Variance in Dates

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7 It does not matter if the evidence you heard at trial indicates that a particular act occurred on a

different date. The law requires only a substantial similarity between the dates alleged in the Indictment

and the dates established by the evidence.

III. CONCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS

Selection of the Foreperson

In a few minutes, you are going to go into the jury room and begin your deliberations. Your first task will be to select a foreperson. The foreperson has no greater voice or authority than any other juror but is the person who will communicate with me when questions arise and when you have reached a verdict and who will be asked in open court to pass your completed Verdict Form to me. Notes should be signed by the foreperson and should include the date and time they were sent. They should also be as clear and precise as possible. Any notes from the jury will become part of the record in this case. So please be as clear and specific as you can be in any notes that you send. Do not tell me or anyone else how the jury stands on any issue until after a unanimous verdict is reached.

Right to See Exhibits and Hear Testimony

All of the exhibits (with the exception of the exhibits containing the alleged child pornography and/or child erotica) will be given to you near the start of deliberations. In addition, you will also be provided with a list of all the exhibits that were received into evidence.

If you prefer to view any evidence here in the courtroom or if you want any of the testimony submitted to you or read back to you, you may also request that. Keep in mind that if you ask for testimony, however, the court reporter must search through her notes, the parties must agree on what portions of testimony may be called for, and if they disagree, I must resolve those disagreements. That can be a time-consuming process. So please try to be as specific as you possibly can in requesting portions of the testimony, if you do.

Again, your requests for testimony — in fact, any communication with the Court — should be made to me in writing, signed by your foreperson with the date and time, and given to one of the Court Security Officers.

Juror Note-Taking

If any one of you took notes during the course of the trial, you should not show your notes to, or discuss your notes with, any other jurors during your deliberations. Any notes you have taken are to be used solely to assist you. The fact that a particular juror has taken notes entitles that juror's views to no greater weight than those of any other juror. Finally, your notes are not to substitute for your recollection of the evidence in the case. If, during your deliberations, you have any doubt as to any of the testimony, you may — as I just told you — request that the official trial transcript that has been made of these proceedings be submitted or read back to you.

Bias, Prejudice, and Sympathy

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All of us, no matter how hard we try, tend to look at others and weigh what they have to say through the lens of our own experience and background. We each have a tendency to stereotype others and make assumptions about them. Often, we see life and evaluate evidence through a clouded filter that tends to favor those like ourselves. You must do the best you can to put aside such stereotypes, for all litigants and witnesses are entitled to a level playing field. In particular, it would be improper for you to consider, in reaching your decision as to whether the Government sustained its burden of proof, any personal feelings you may have about the defendant's race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age. Similarly, it would be improper for you to consider any personal feelings you may have about the race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age of any witness or anyone else involved in this case. Additionally, you must not be influenced by any personal feelings you may have about child pornography or the nature of the charged crimes. Indeed, under your oath as jurors, you are not to be swayed by bias, prejudice, or sympathy. You are to be guided solely by the evidence in this case, and as you sift through the evidence, the crucial question that you must ask yourselves for each count is: Has the Government proved each element of each count beyond a reasonable doubt? It is for you and you alone to decide whether the Government has sustained its burden of proving the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, solely on the basis of the evidence or lack of evidence and subject to the law as I have instructed you.

there is a risk that you will not arrive at a true and just verdict.

It must be clear to you that once you let prejudice, bias, or sympathy interfere with your thinking,

If you have a reasonable doubt as to the defendant's guilt with respect to a particular count, then you must render a verdict of not guilty on that particular count. On the other hand, if you should find that the Government has met its burden of proving the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt with respect to a particular count, then you should not hesitate because of sympathy or any other reason to render a verdict of guilty on that count.

I also caution you that, under your oath as jurors, you cannot allow to enter into your deliberations any consideration of the punishment that may be imposed upon the defendant if he is convicted. The duty of imposing a sentence in the event of conviction rests exclusively with the Court, and the issue of punishment may not affect your deliberations as to whether the Government has proved the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Duty to Deliberate

The most important part of this case, members of the jury, is the part that you as jurors are now about to play as you deliberate on the issues of fact. I know you will try the issues that have been presented to you according to the oath that you have taken as jurors. In that oath you promised that you would well and truly try the issues joined in this case and a true verdict render.

As you deliberate, please listen to the opinions of your fellow jurors, and ask for an opportunity to express your own views. Every juror should be heard. No one juror should hold the center stage in the jury room and no one juror should control or monopolize the deliberations. If, after listening to your fellow jurors and if, after stating your own view, you become convinced that your view is wrong, do not hesitate because of stubbornness or pride to change your view. On the other hand, do not surrender your honest beliefs solely because of the opinions of your fellow jurors or because you are outnumbered.

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revoked.

Your verdict must be unanimous. If at any time you are not in agreement, you are instructed that you are not to reveal the standing of the jurors, that is, the split of the vote, to anyone, including me, at any time during your deliberations. Return of the Verdict We have prepared a Verdict Form for you to use in recording your decisions, a copy of which is attached to these instructions. Do not write on your individual copies of the Verdict Form. My staff will give the official Verdict Form to Juror Number One, who should give it to the foreperson after the foreperson has been selected. You should draw no inference from the questions on the Verdict Form as to what your verdict should be. The questions are not to be taken as any indication that I have any opinion as to how they should be answered. After you have reached a verdict, the foreperson should fill in the Verdict Form and note the date and time, and you should all sign the Verdict Form. The foreperson should then give a note — not the Verdict Form itself — to the Court Security Officer outside your door stating that you have reached a verdict. Do not specify what the verdict is in your note. Instead, the foreperson should retain the Verdict Form and hand it to me in open court when I ask for it. I will stress again that each of you must be in agreement with the verdict that is announced in court. Once your verdict is announced in open court and officially recorded, it cannot ordinarily be

Closing Comments

Finally, I say this, not because I think it is necessary, but because it is the custom in this courthouse to say it: You should treat each other with courtesy and respect during your deliberations.

All litigants stand equal in this room. All litigants stand equal before the bar of justice. All litigants stand equal before you. Your duty is to decide between these parties fairly and impartially, and to see that justice is done.

Under your oath as jurors, you are not to be swayed by sympathy or prejudice. You should be guided solely by the evidence presented during the trial and the law as I gave it to you, without regard to the consequences of your decision. You have been chosen to try the issues of fact and to reach a verdict on the basis of the evidence or lack of evidence. If you let sympathy or prejudice interfere with your clear thinking, there is a risk that you will not arrive at a just verdict. You must make a fair and impartial decision so that you will arrive at the just verdict.

Members of the jury, I ask your patience for a few moments longer. It is necessary for me to spend a few moments with the lawyers and the court reporter at the side bar. I will ask you to remain patiently in the jury box, without speaking to each other, and we will return in just a moment to submit the case to you. Thank you.

SOUTHERN DI	ES DISTRICT COURT STRICT OF NEW YORK	X
UNITED STAT	ES OF AMERICA,	: S2 17-CR-548 (JMF)
JOSHUA ADAM	M SCHULTE,	: <u>VERDICT FORM</u>
	Defendant.	: : :
		Aust Be Unanimous
Count One - Ro	eceipt of Child Pornography	
Guilty	Not Guilty	
Count Two – Po	ossession of <mark>, or Accessing with</mark>	Intent to View, Child Pornography
Guilty	Not Guilty	
Count Three –	Transportation of Child Porno	graphy
Guilty	Not Guilty	

Please Turn to the Next Page

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Foreperson	
Date and Time:	

Once you have signed the Verdict Form, please give a note — NOT the Verdict Form itself — to the Court Security Officer stating that you have reached a verdict.

Lesser Included Offense

Proof of receiving child pornography necessarily includes proof of possession, meaning that you cannot receive something without possessing it. Therefore, to convict the defendant for both Count One and Count Two, you must find that he possessed and received two different images or videos, or separate conduct is found to underlie the two offenses.

United States v. Dudeck, 657 F.3d 424, 428-30 (6th Cir. 2011) (noting that Sixth Circuit has "held that possession under § 2252A(a)(5)(B) is a lesser-included offense of receipt under § 2252A(a)(2)(A)" and reviewing other circuits' decisions that "collectively indicate that while possession of child pornography is generally a lesser-included offense of receipt of child pornography, conviction under both statutes is permissible if separate conduct is found to underlie the two offenses")

United States v. Muhlenbruch, 634 F.3d 987, 1003-04 (8th Cir. 2011) (agreeing with "analysis of our sister circuits and recogniz[ing] that . . . proof of receiving child pornography under § 2252(a)(2) necessarily includes proof of illegal possession of child pornography under § 2252(a)(4)(B), and Congress did not intend to impose multiplicitous punishment for these offenses" and holding that convictions for both possession and receipt "based on the same conduct" violated Double Jeopardy Clause)

United States v. Bobb, 577 F.3d 1366, 1373-75 (11th Cir. 2009) (concluding possession is lesser-included offense of receipt but allowing conviction to stand since it was "based on two distinct offenses, occurring on two different dates")

United States v. Miller. 527 F.3d 54, 71-72 (3d Cir. 2008) (holding possession is lesser-included offense of receipt, based on Supreme Court's decision in *Ball v. United States*, 470 U.S. 856, 105 S. Ct. 1668, 84 L. Ed. 2d 740 (1985), and that generally "possession of a contraband item is a lesser-included offense of receipt of the item")

United States v. Schales, 546 F.3d 965, 977 (9th Cir. 2008) ("[W]e find a double jeopardy violation because possession of sexually explicit material is a lesser-included offense of receipt of sexually explicit material and because the government has not sufficiently alleged separate conduct.")

United States v. Polouizzi, 564 F.3d 142, 158-59 (2d Cir. 2009) (noting that that "the Ninth and Third Circuits have . . . concluded that § 2252A(a)(5)(B) (possession of child pornography) is a lesser-included offense of § 2252A(a)(2) (receipt of child pornography), because receiving an item necessitates taking possession of it" and stating that "we find the reasoning of [United States v.] Davenport[, 519 F.3d 940, 943-44 (9th Cir. 2008); United States v.] Miller[, 527 F.3d 54, 71-72 (3r Cir. 2008)] persuasive.")

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK		
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	
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-V-	:	
	:	S2 17-CR-548 (JMF)
JOSHUA ADAM SCHULTE,	:	,
	:	
Defendant.	:	
	:	
	X	

JURY CHARGE

September 13, 2023

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I. GENERAL INTRODUCTORY CHARGES

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Members of the jury, you have now heard all of the evidence and the lawyers' closing arguments. It is my duty at this point to instruct you as to the law. I am going to read my instructions to you. It is not my favorite way to communicate — and not the most scintillating thing to listen to — but there is a need for precision, and it is important that I get the words just right, and so that is why I will be reading. I have given you a copy of my instructions to follow along because they cover many points. Please limit yourself to following along; that is, do not read ahead in the instructions. If you find it easier to listen and understand while you are following along with me, please do so. If you would prefer, you can just listen and not follow along. In the unlikely event that I deviate from the written instructions, it is my oral instructions that govern and that you must follow. But you may take your copy of the instructions with you into the jury room so you can consult it if you want to re-read any portion of the charge to facilitate your deliberations. For now, listen carefully and try to concentrate on the substance of what I'm saying. You should not single out any instruction as alone stating the law. Instead, you should consider my instructions as a whole when you retire to deliberate in the jury room. My instructions to you will be in three parts. First, I will give you general instructions — for example, about your role as the jury, what you can and cannot consider in your deliberations, and the burden of proof. Second, I will describe the law that you must apply to the facts as you find them to be established by the evidence.

Finally, I will give you some instructions for your deliberations.

Role of the Court and the Jury

my instructions that you must follow.

You, the members of the jury, are the sole and exclusive judges of the facts. You must weigh and consider the evidence without regard to sympathy, prejudice, or passion for or against any party. It is your duty to accept my instructions as to the law and to apply them to the facts as you determine them. If either party has stated a legal principle differently from any that I state to you in my instructions, it is

The Parties

In reaching your verdict, you must remember that all parties stand equal before a jury in the courts of the United States. The fact that the Government is a party and the prosecution is brought in the name of the United States does not entitle the Government or its witnesses to any greater consideration than that accorded to any other party. By the same token, you must give it no less deference. The Government and the defendant, Joshua Schulte, stand on equal footing before you.

It would be improper for you to consider, in reaching your decision as to whether the Government sustained its burden of proof, any personal feelings you may have about the defendant's race, national origin, religious beliefs, sex, or age. All persons are entitled to the same presumption of innocence and the Government has the same burden of proof with respect to all persons.

Conduct of Counsel

The personalities and the conduct of counsel are not in any way at issue. If you formed opinions of any kind about any of the lawyers in the case, favorable or unfavorable, whether you approved or disapproved of their behavior, those opinions should not enter into your deliberations.

In addition, remember that it is the duty of a lawyer to object when the other side offers testimony or other evidence that the lawyer believes is not properly admissible. Therefore, you should draw no inference from the fact that there was an objection to any testimony or evidence. Nor should you draw any inference related to the weight or importance of any testimony or evidence from the fact that I sustained or overruled an objection. Simply because I have permitted certain testimony or evidence to be introduced does not mean that I have decided on its importance or significance. That is for you to decide.

Presumption of Innocence and Burden of Proof

The defendant has pleaded not guilty to the charges against him. As a result of that plea of not guilty, the burden is on the Government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden never shifts to a defendant for the simple reason that the law never imposes upon a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of testifying, or calling any witness, or locating or producing any evidence.

Furthermore, the law presumes the defendant to be innocent of the charges against him. The presumption of innocence was in his favor when the trial began, continued in his favor throughout the entire trial, remains with him even as I speak to you now, and persists in his favor as to each charged crime during the course of your deliberations in the jury room, unless and until you determine that the Government proves beyond a reasonable doubt that he committed each charged crime.

Proof Beyond a Reasonable Doubt

The question that naturally arises is, "What is a reasonable doubt?" A reasonable doubt is a doubt based on your reason, your judgment, your experience, and your common sense. It is a doubt that a reasonable person has after carefully weighing all the evidence. It is a doubt founded in reason and

arising out of the evidence in the case — or the lack of evidence. A reasonable doubt is not caprice or whim. It is not speculation or suspicion.

Proof beyond a *reasonable* doubt does not mean proof beyond all *possible* doubt. It is practically impossible for a person to be absolutely and completely convinced of any disputed fact that, by its very nature, cannot be proved with mathematical certainty. The Government's burden is to establish guilt beyond a *reasonable* doubt, not all *possible* doubt.

If, after a fair and impartial consideration of all the evidence, you can candidly and honestly say that you are not satisfied with the guilt of the defendant, that you do not have an abiding belief of the defendant's guilt — in other words, if you have such a doubt as would reasonably cause a prudent person to hesitate in acting in matters of importance in his or her own affairs — then you have a reasonable doubt, and in that circumstance it is your duty to acquit.

On the other hand, if, after a fair and impartial consideration of all the evidence, you can candidly and honestly say that you do have an abiding belief of the defendant's guilt, such a belief as a prudent person would be willing to act upon in important matters in the personal affairs of his or her own life, then you have no reasonable doubt, and in that circumstance it is your duty to convict.

Direct and Circumstantial Evidence

There are two types of evidence that you may properly use in deciding whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty of the crimes with which he is charged.

One type of evidence is called direct evidence. Direct evidence of a fact in issue is presented when a witness testifies to that fact based on what he or she personally saw, heard, or otherwise observed through the five senses. The second type of evidence is circumstantial evidence.

23 Circumstantial evidence is evidence that tends to prove a disputed fact indirectly by proof of other facts.

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There is a simple example of circumstantial evidence that is often used in this courthouse. Assume that when you came into the courthouse this morning, the sun was shining and it was a nice day outside. Also assume that the courtroom shades were drawn and you could not look outside. Assume further that as you were sitting here, someone walked in with an umbrella that was dripping wet, and then, a few moments later, somebody else walked in with a raincoat that was also dripping wet. Now, because you could not look outside the courtroom and you could not see whether it was raining, you would have no direct evidence of that fact. But, on the combination of facts that I have asked you to assume, it would be reasonable and logical for you to conclude that it was raining. That is all there is to circumstantial evidence. You infer on the basis of your reason, experience, and common sense from one established fact the existence or the nonexistence of some other fact. The matter of drawing inferences from facts in evidence is not a matter of guesswork or speculation. An inference is a logical, factual conclusion that you might reasonably draw from other facts that have been proved. It is for you, and you alone, to decide what inferences you will draw. Many material facts, such as a person's state of mind, are not easily proved by direct evidence. Usually such facts are established by circumstantial evidence and the reasonable inferences you draw. Circumstantial evidence may be given as much weight as direct evidence. The law makes no distinction between direct and circumstantial evidence. The law simply requires that before convicting a defendant, you must be satisfied of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, based on all of the evidence in the case. What Is and What Is Not Evidence What, then, is the evidence in the case?

The evidence in this case is (1) the sworn testimony of the witnesses, (2) the exhibits received into evidence, and (3) any stipulations made by the parties. Anything else is not evidence.

For example, the questions posed to a witness are not evidence: It is the witnesses' answers that are evidence, not the questions. In addition, materials brought forth only to refresh a witness's recollection are not evidence. Moreover, testimony that has been stricken or excluded by me is not evidence and may not be considered by you in rendering your verdict.

Arguments by the advocates are also not evidence. What you heard during the opening statements and summations is merely intended to help you understand the evidence and reach your verdict. If your recollection of the facts differs from the lawyers' statements, you should rely on your recollection. If a lawyer made a statement during his or her opening or summation and you find that there is no evidence to support the statement, you should disregard the statement.

Last, any statements that I may have made during the trial or during these instructions do not constitute evidence. At times, I may have admonished a witness or directed a witness to be responsive to questions or to keep his or her voice up. At times, I may have asked a question myself. Any questions that I asked, or instructions that I gave, were intended only to clarify the presentation of evidence and to bring out something that I thought might be unclear. You should draw no inference or conclusion of any kind, favorable or unfavorable, with respect to any witness or any party in the case, by reason of any comment, question, or instruction of mine. The rulings I have made during the trial and these instructions are no indication of my views of what your decision should be. Nor should you infer that I have any views as to the credibility of any witness, as to the weight of the evidence, or as to how you should decide any issue that is before you. That is entirely your role.

Finally, I instruct you that all of the evidence presented to you in this case was lawfully obtained.

Whether you approve or disapprove of how any evidence was obtained should not enter into your deliberations.

Credibility of Witnesses

How do you evaluate the credibility or believability of the witnesses? The answer is that you use your common sense. There is no magic formula by which you can evaluate testimony. You may use the same tests here that you use in your everyday life when evaluating statements made by others to you. You may ask yourselves: Did the witness impress you as open, honest, and candid? How responsive was the witness to the questions asked on direct examination and on cross-examination?

If you find that a witness intentionally told a falsehood, that is always a matter of importance you should weigh carefully. On the other hand, a witness may be inaccurate, contradictory, or even untruthful in some respects and entirely believable and truthful in other respects. It is for you to determine whether such inconsistencies are significant or inconsequential, and whether to accept or reject all of the testimony of any witness, or to accept or reject only portions.

You are not required to accept testimony even though the testimony is uncontradicted and the witness's testimony is not challenged. You may reject it because of the witness's bearing or demeanor, or because of the inherent improbability of the testimony, or for other reasons sufficient for you to conclude that the testimony is not worthy of belief.

In evaluating the credibility of the witnesses, you should take into account any evidence that a witness may benefit in some way from the outcome of the case. Such an interest in the outcome creates a motive to testify falsely and may sway a witness to testify in a way that advances his or her own interests. Therefore, if you find that any witness whose testimony you are considering may have an

interest in the outcome of this trial, you should bear that factor in mind when evaluating the credibility of his or her testimony and decide whether to accept it with great care.

Keep in mind, though, that it does not automatically follow that testimony given by an interested witness is to be disbelieved. There are many people who, no matter what their interest in the outcome of the case may be, would not testify falsely. It is for you to decide, based on your own perceptions and common sense, to what extent, if at all, the witness's interest has affected his or her testimony.

Expert Witnesses

You have heard testimony from two expert witnesses. As I previously explained, an expert witness is someone who, by education or experience, has acquired learning or experience in a specialized area of knowledge. Such a witness is permitted to express his opinions on matters about which he has specialized knowledge and training. The parties may present expert testimony to you on the theory that someone who is experienced in the field can assist you in understanding the evidence or in reaching an independent decision on the facts.

Your role in judging credibility applies to the expert as well as other witnesses. In weighing an expert's opinion, you may consider the expert's qualifications, education, and reasons for testifying, as well as all of the other considerations that ordinarily apply, including all the other evidence in the case. If you find the opinion of an expert is based on sufficient data, education, and experience, and the other evidence does not give you reason to doubt his conclusions, you would be justified in placing reliance on his testimony. However, you should not accept witness testimony simply because the witness is an expert. The determination of the facts in this case rests solely with you.

Law Enforcement and Government Witnesses

You have heard testimony from law enforcement or other government witnesses. The fact that a witness may be employed as a law enforcement official or government employee does not mean that his or her testimony is necessarily deserving of more or less consideration or greater or lesser weight than that of an ordinary witness. It is your decision, after reviewing all the evidence, whether to accept the testimony of any law enforcement witness or government witnesses, as it is with every other type of witness, and to give to that testimony the weight you find it deserves.

Uncalled Witnesses

There are people whose names you have heard during the course of the trial but who did not appear here to testify. I instruct you that each party had an equal opportunity, or lack of opportunity, to call any of these witnesses. Therefore, you should not draw any inferences or reach any conclusions as to what they would have testified to had they been called. Their absence should not affect your judgment in any way.

You should, however, remember my instruction that the law does not impose on a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of calling any witness or producing any evidence. The burden of proof remains at all times with the Government.

Number of Witnesses and Uncontradicted Testimony

I remind you that the defendant is not required to call any witnesses or offer any evidence, since he is presumed to be innocent. On the other hand, the Government is not required to prove each element of the offense by any particular number of witnesses. The testimony of a single witness may be enough to convince you beyond a reasonable doubt of the existence of the elements of the charged offenses — if

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you believe that the witness has truthfully and accurately related what he or she has told you. The testimony of a single witness may also be enough to convince you that reasonable doubt exists, in which case you must find the defendant not guilty. **Stipulations** A stipulation was entered into relating to various facts in this case. A stipulation is an agreement between parties as to what certain facts were or what the testimony would be if certain people testified before you. The stipulation is the same for your purposes as the presentation of live testimony. You should consider the weight to be given such evidence just as you would any other evidence. **Charts and Summaries** The Government presented exhibits in the form of charts and summaries. As I mentioned to you earlier, I admitted these charts and summaries in place of, or in addition to, the underlying testimony or documents that they represent in order to save time and avoid unnecessary inconvenience. You should consider the charts and summaries as you would any other evidence. Limited Purpose Evidence If certain testimony or evidence was received for a limited purpose, you must follow the limiting instructions I have given. Particular Investigative Techniques There is no legal requirement that the Government prove its case through any particular means. While you are to carefully consider the evidence and/or lack of evidence adduced by the Government,

- 1 you are not to speculate as to why the Government used the techniques it did or why it did not use other
- 2 techniques. Your concern is to determine whether or not, on the evidence or lack of evidence, the
- 3 Government has met its burden of proving each element of each charge beyond a reasonable doubt.

All Available Evidence Need Not Be Introduced

things available to either party during the course of the trial.

The law does not require any party to call as witnesses all persons who may have been present at any time or place involved in the case, or who may appear to have some knowledge of the matter in issue at this trial. Nor does the law require any party to produce as exhibits all relevant papers and

The Defendant's Testimony

The defendant did not testify. Under our Constitution, a defendant is presumed innocent and has no obligation to testify or to present any other evidence because, as I have told you many times, it is the Government's burden to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. That burden remains on the Government throughout the entire trial and never shifts to the defendant. A defendant is never required to prove that he is innocent.

You may not attach any significance to the fact that the defendant did not testify. No positive or negative inference, for or against, the defendant may be drawn by you because the defendant did not take the witness stand. You may not speculate as to why he did not testify. You may not consider this in any way in your deliberations in the jury room.

1 II. SUBSTANTIVE CHARGES 2 That concludes my introductory instructions. Let me now turn to the charges. 3 The Indictment 4 The defendant is formally charged in an Indictment. As I instructed you at the outset of this 5 case, the Indictment is simply a charge or accusation. It is not evidence, and it does not prove or even 6 indicate guilt. It does not create any presumption or permit any inference that the defendant is guilty. 7 As I have told you many times, the defendant is presumed innocent and has entered a plea of not guilty. 8 It is the Government's burden to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. 9 The Indictment contains three charges, or "counts," against the defendant. Each count accuses 10 the defendant of committing a different crime. You must, as a matter of law, consider each count, and 11 you must return a separate verdict for each count in which the defendant is charged. Your verdict on 12 one count should not control your decision as to the other count. 13 Count One charges that, between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant 14 knowingly received material that contained child pornography by downloading from the Internet 15 electronic files depicting child pornography. 16 Count Two charges that, between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant 17 knowingly possessed material that contained child pornography. 18 Count Three charges that, in or about November 2016, the defendant knowingly transported 19 child pornography in interstate commerce. 20 I will explain each count to you in turn.

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1 **Count One: Elements** 2 As noted, Count One charges the defendant with the receipt of child pornography. In order to 3 convict the defendant of Count One, the Government must prove the following four elements beyond a 4 reasonable doubt: 5 First, that between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant knowingly 6 received a visual depiction, as I will explain that term to you; 7 Second, that the visual depiction contained child pornography, as I will explain that term to you; 8 Third, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and 9 knew that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and 10 Fourth, that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign 11 commerce by any means, including by computer. 12 13 Count One, Element One: Receiving a Visual Depiction

The first element of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is that the defendant knowingly received a visual depiction.

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A "visual depiction" includes any photograph, film, video, or picture, including data stored on computer disk or by electronic means that is capable of conversion into a visual image.

To receive a visual depiction means to take possession of it. This includes the knowing acceptance of a depiction previously requested. Receiving includes the downloading of a photograph or video by means of the Internet.

The Government must prove that defendant received the depiction knowingly. An act is done knowingly when it is done voluntarily and intentionally and not because of accident, mistake or some other innocent reason. Direct proof of knowledge is almost never available. It would be a rare case

1 when it could be shown that a person wrote or stated that, as of a given time in the past, he committed an 2 act with knowledge. Such proof is not required. The ultimate fact of knowledge, though subjective, 3 may be established by circumstantial evidence, based upon a person's outward manifestations, his 4 words, his conduct, his acts and all the surrounding circumstances disclosed by the evidence and the 5 rational or logical inferences that may be drawn from them. 6 7 Count One, Element Two: Child Pornography 8 The second element of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is 9 that the visual depiction the defendant received is child pornography. The defendant does not dispute 10 that material in this case was in fact child pornography. 11 12 Count One, Element Three: Knowledge 13 The third element that of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable 14 doubt is that the defendant knew that the material he received was child pornography. 15 As I stated before, an act is done knowingly when it is done voluntarily and intentionally and not 16 because of accident, mistake or some other innocent reason. For this element, the term "knowingly" refers to an awareness of the sexually explicit nature of 17 18 the material and to the knowledge that the visual depictions were in fact of actual minors engaged in that

contents of the material. The defendant need not have had specific knowledge as to the identity or actual age of the underage person depicted in the material. The defendant must have had knowledge or an awareness that the material contained a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit

The Government must show that the defendant had knowledge of the general nature of the

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sexually explicit conduct.

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conduct. Such knowledge may be shown by direct or circumstantial evidence, or both. Eyewitness testimony of the defendant's viewing of the material is not necessary to prove his awareness of its contents; the circumstances may warrant an inference that he was aware of what the material depicts. Furthermore, the defendant's belief as to the legality or illegality of the material is irrelevant. Count One, Element Four: Interstate Commerce The fourth element of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable doubt is that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer. The parties have stipulated that the images and videos at issue in this case were, in fact, transported in or affecting interstate and foreign commerce, including by computer. Count Two: Elements As noted, Count Two charges the defendant with possession of child pornography. In order to convict the defendant of Count Two, the Government must prove the following four elements beyond a reasonable doubt: First, that between in or about 2009 and in or about March 2017, the defendant knowingly possessed a visual depiction; Second, that the visual depiction contained child pornography; Third, that the defendant knew that the material depicted one or more actual minors and knew that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct; and Fourth, that the visual depiction was shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.

Count Two, Element One: Knowingly Possessed

The first element of the offense that the Government must establish beyond a reasonable doubt is that the defendant knowingly possessed a visual depiction.

To "possess" something means to have it within a person's control. This does not necessarily mean that the person must hold it physically, that is have actual possession of it. As long as the visual depiction is within the defendant's control, he possesses it. If you find that the defendant either had actual possession of the depiction or that he had the power and intention to exercise control over it, even though it was not in his physical possession, you may find that the Government has proved possession.

The law also recognizes that possession may be sole or joint. If one person alone possesses it, that is sole possession. However, it is possible that more than one person may have the power and intention to exercise control over the visual depiction. This is called joint possession. If you find that the defendant had such power and intention, then he possessed the depiction even if he possessed it jointly with another person.

The Government must prove that defendant possessed child pornography knowingly. I have previously instructed you on what it means for the defendant to have acted knowingly, and you should follow those instructions here as well.

Count Two, Elements Two, Three, and Four

The second, third, and fourth elements that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt before you can convict him on Count Two are that the images and videos contained child pornography, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that the minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and that the images and videos had been

1 shipped or transported in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by 2 computer. I have previously instructed you about the requirements of these elements in connection with 3 Count One, and you should follow those instructions with respect to Count Two as well. 4 5 Count Three: Elements 6 As noted, Count Three charges the defendant with transporting child pornography in interstate 7 commerce. In order to convict the defendant of Count Three, the Government must prove the following 8 three elements beyond a reasonable doubt: 9 First, that in or about November 2016, the defendant transported or shipped in or affecting 10 interstate or foreign commerce by any means, including by computer, a visual depiction; 11 Second, that the visual depiction was child pornography; and 12 Third, that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that 13 the actual minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct. 14 15 Count Three, Element One: Knowing Interstate Transportation 16 The first element that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt is that the 17 defendant knowingly transported or shipped the visual depiction described in the Indictment in interstate 18 or foreign commerce. 19 I have previously instructed you on what a "visual depiction" is, on what it means for the 20 defendant to act "knowingly," and on what it means for material to be transported in interstate 21 commerce, and you should follow those instructions here as well.

It is not necessary for the Government to show that the defendant personally transported or shipped the visual depiction. It is sufficient if the Government proves that the defendant knowingly caused the interstate shipment to take place.

Count Three, Elements Two and Three

The second and third elements of the offense that the Government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt are that the visual depiction contained child pornography and that the defendant knew both that the material depicted one or more actual minors and that the actual minor or minors were engaged in sexually explicit conduct. I have previously instructed you about the requirements of these elements in connection with Count One, and you should follow those instructions with respect to Count Three as well.

Venue in the Southern District of New York

In addition to all of the elements I have described for you, in order to convict the defendant of each count in the Indictment, you must also decide whether any act in furtherance of the count occurred within the Southern District of New York. The Southern District of New York includes Manhattan.

The Government does not have to prove that the complete crime was committed within the Southern District of New York or that the defendant was ever in the Southern District of New York. It is sufficient to satisfy this element if any act in furtherance of the crime occurred within this District.

Venue must be examined separately for each count in the Indictment. Venue on one count does not establish venue on another count, although, if applicable, you may rely on the same evidence to establish venue on multiple counts.

I should note that on this issue — and this issue alone — the Government need not prove venue beyond a reasonable doubt, but only by a mere preponderance of the evidence. Thus, the Government has satisfied its venue obligations as to a count if you conclude that it is more likely than not that any act in furtherance of the crime charged in that count occurred in the Southern District of New York and that it was reasonably foreseeable to the defendant that the act would take place in the Southern District of New York. By contrast, if you find that the Government failed to prove venue by a preponderance of the evidence with regard to any count, then you must acquit the defendant of that count.

Variance in Dates

It does not matter if the evidence you heard at trial indicates that a particular act occurred on a different date. The law requires only a substantial similarity between the dates alleged in the Indictment and the dates established by the evidence.

III. CONCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS

Selection of the Foreperson

In a few minutes, you are going to go into the jury room and begin your deliberations. Your first task will be to select a foreperson. The foreperson has no greater voice or authority than any other juror but is the person who will communicate with me when questions arise and when you have reached a verdict and who will be asked in open court to pass your completed Verdict Form to me. Notes should be signed by the foreperson and should include the date and time they were sent. They should also be as clear and precise as possible. Any notes from the jury will become part of the record in this case. So

please be as clear and specific as you can be in any notes that you send. Do not tell me or anyone else

how the jury stands on any issue until after a unanimous verdict is reached.

Right to See Exhibits and Hear Testimony

All of the exhibits (with the exception of the exhibits containing the child pornography and/or child erotica) will be given to you near the start of deliberations. In addition, you will also be provided with a list of all the exhibits that were received into evidence.

If you want to view any of the child pornography and/or child erotica, if you prefer to view any evidence here in the courtroom, or if you want any of the testimony submitted to you or read back to you, you may also request that. Keep in mind that if you ask for testimony, however, the court reporter must search through her notes, the parties must agree on what portions of testimony may be called for, and if they disagree, I must resolve those disagreements. That can be a time-consuming process. So please try to be as specific as you possibly can in requesting portions of the testimony, if you do.

Again, your requests for testimony — in fact, any communication with the Court — should be made to me in writing, signed by your foreperson with the date and time, and given to one of the Court Security Officers.

Juror Note-Taking

If any one of you took notes during the course of the trial, you should not show your notes to, or discuss your notes with, any other jurors during your deliberations. Any notes you have taken are to be used solely to assist you. The fact that a particular juror has taken notes entitles that juror's views to no greater weight than those of any other juror. Finally, your notes are not to substitute for your recollection of the evidence in the case. If, during your deliberations, you have any doubt as to any of

the testimony, you may — as I just told you — request that the official trial transcript that has been made of these proceedings be submitted or read back to you.

Bias, Prejudice, and Sympathy

All of us, no matter how hard we try, tend to look at others and weigh what they have to say through the lens of our own experience and background. We each have a tendency to stereotype others and make assumptions about them. Often, we see life and evaluate evidence through a clouded filter that tends to favor those like ourselves. You must do the best you can to put aside such stereotypes, for all litigants and witnesses are entitled to a level playing field.

In particular, it would be improper for you to consider, in reaching your decision as to whether the Government sustained its burden of proof, any personal feelings you may have about the defendant's race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age. Similarly, it would be improper for you to consider any personal feelings you may have about the race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age of any witness or anyone else involved in this case. Additionally, you must not be influenced by any personal feelings you may have about child pornography or the nature of the charged crimes.

Indeed, under your oath as jurors, you are not to be swayed by bias, prejudice, or sympathy. You are to be guided solely by the evidence in this case, and as you sift through the evidence, the crucial question that you must ask yourselves for each count is: Has the Government proved each element of each count beyond a reasonable doubt?

It is for you and you alone to decide whether the Government has sustained its burden of proving the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, solely on the basis of the evidence or lack of evidence and subject to the law as I have instructed you.

It must be clear to you that once you let prejudice, bias, or sympathy interfere with your thinking, there is a risk that you will not arrive at a true and just verdict.

If you have a reasonable doubt as to the defendant's guilt with respect to a particular count, then you must render a verdict of not guilty on that particular count. On the other hand, if you should find that the Government has met its burden of proving the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt with respect to a particular count, then you should not hesitate because of sympathy or any other reason to render a verdict of guilty on that count.

I also caution you that, under your oath as jurors, you cannot allow to enter into your deliberations any consideration of the punishment that may be imposed upon the defendant if he is convicted. The duty of imposing a sentence in the event of conviction rests exclusively with the Court, and the issue of punishment may not affect your deliberations as to whether the Government has proved the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

14 Duty to Deliberate

The most important part of this case, members of the jury, is the part that you as jurors are now about to play as you deliberate on the issues of fact. I know you will try the issues that have been presented to you according to the oath that you have taken as jurors. In that oath you promised that you would well and truly try the issues joined in this case and a true verdict render.

As you deliberate, please listen to the opinions of your fellow jurors, and ask for an opportunity to express your own views. Every juror should be heard. No one juror should hold the center stage in the jury room and no one juror should control or monopolize the deliberations. If, after listening to your fellow jurors and if, after stating your own view, you become convinced that your view is wrong, do not

hesitate because of stubbornness or pride to change your view. On the other hand, do not surrender your honest beliefs solely because of the opinions of your fellow jurors or because you are outnumbered.

Your verdict must be unanimous. If at any time you are not in agreement, you are instructed that you are not to reveal the standing of the jurors, that is, the split of the vote, to anyone, including me, at any time during your deliberations.

Return of the Verdict

We have prepared a Verdict Form for you to use in recording your decisions, a copy of which is attached to these instructions. Do not write on your individual copies of the Verdict Form. My staff will give the official Verdict Form to Juror Number One, who should give it to the foreperson after the foreperson has been selected.

You should draw no inference from the questions on the Verdict Form as to what your verdict should be. The questions are not to be taken as any indication that I have any opinion as to how they should be answered.

After you have reached a verdict, the foreperson should fill in the Verdict Form and note the date and time, and you should all sign the Verdict Form. The foreperson should then give a note — <u>not</u> the Verdict Form itself — to the Court Security Officer outside your door stating that you have reached a verdict. Do not specify what the verdict is in your note. Instead, the foreperson should retain the Verdict Form and hand it to me in open court when I ask for it.

I will stress again that each of you must be in agreement with the verdict that is announced in court. Once your verdict is announced in open court and officially recorded, it cannot ordinarily be revoked.

Closing Comments

Finally, I say this, not because I think it is necessary, but because it is the custom in this courthouse to say it: You should treat each other with courtesy and respect during your deliberations.

All litigants stand equal in this room. All litigants stand equal before the bar of justice. All litigants stand equal before you. Your duty is to decide between these parties fairly and impartially, and to see that justice is done.

Under your oath as jurors, you are not to be swayed by sympathy or prejudice. You should be guided solely by the evidence presented during the trial and the law as I gave it to you, without regard to the consequences of your decision. You have been chosen to try the issues of fact and to reach a verdict on the basis of the evidence or lack of evidence. If you let sympathy or prejudice interfere with your clear thinking, there is a risk that you will not arrive at a just verdict. You must make a fair and impartial decision so that you will arrive at the just verdict.

Members of the jury, I ask your patience for a few moments longer. It is necessary for me to spend a few moments with the lawyers and the court reporter at the side bar. I will ask you to remain patiently in the jury box, without speaking to each other, and we will return in just a moment to submit the case to you. Thank you.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, : S2 17-CR-548 (JI -v- : :	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 	X
JOSHUA ADAM SCHULTE, Defendant.		: : S2 17-CR-548 (JMF)
Defendant. Hanswers Must Be Unanimous Count One – Receipt of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Two – Possession of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography	-V-	:
: All Answers Must Be Unanimous Count One – Receipt of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Two – Possession of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography	JOSHUA ADAM SCHULTE,	: <u>VERDICT FORM</u>
All Answers Must Be Unanimous Count One – Receipt of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Two – Possession of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography		: :
Count Two – Possession of Child Pornography Guilty Not Guilty Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography		ust Be Unanimous
Guilty Not Guilty Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography	Guilty Not Guilty	
Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornography	Count Two – Possession of Child Pornography	
	Guilty Not Guilty	
Guilty Not Guilty	Count Three – Transportation of Child Pornog	graphy
	Guilty Not Guilty	

Please Turn to the Next Page

After completing the Verdict Form, please sign your names below and fill in the date and time.

Foreperson		

Once you have signed the Verdict Form, please give a note — NOT the Verdict Form itself — to the Court Security Officer stating that you have reached a verdict.